
**The National Program Guidance
for the
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FY2002-03**

DRAFT - May 2001

-- All Americans will have drinking water that is clean and safe to drink. Effective protection of America's rivers, lakes, wetlands, aquifers, and coastal and ocean waters will sustain fish, plants, and wildlife, as well as recreational, subsistence, and economic activities. Watersheds and their aquatic ecosystems will be restored and protected to improve human health, enhance water quality, reduce flooding, and provide habitat for wildlife. --

-- Goal 2: Clean and Safe Water as stated in the EPA Strategic Plan (September 2000)

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Introduction

Section 1: Moving the National Water Program Forward

Important efforts underway in the National Water Program.

Section 2: GPRA Goals, Objectives, and Subobjectives

Contains the strategic goals, objectives, and subobjectives under which the work of the National Water Program falls and which were developed as part of the strategic planning process the Agency undertook to meet requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

Section 3: Program Offices' Vision, Strategies, and Guidances (revised for 2001)

Provides a brief vision statement and lists key strategies and guidances (including sources and contacts) for each of the four water program offices within the Office of Water. (Note: The American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) will be issuing its own guidance separately.)

Section 4: Management Agreement Instructions and Template

Instructions and template for the FY2002 Management Agreement (MA). The template includes the FY2002 Annual Performance Goals and Measures (APGs/APMs) and Office of Water Tribal Strategy Goals.

Section 5: Core Performance Measures

Contains the *Addendum to 1997 Joint Statement on Measuring Progress Under NEPPS: Clarifying the Use and Applicability of Core Performance Measures*, the FY2000 Core Performance Measures (CPMs) for Water, the sources of information for the CPMs, and a comparison of the CPMs to related APMs.

Section 6: Timeline (revised for 2001)

Shows key planning and accountability dates including dates for development and finalization of the MAs and for the Mid-Year and End-of-Year Reports.

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- Section 7: *Midyear and End-of-Year Reporting*** (revised for 2001)
Contains initial guidance for mid-year and end-of-year reporting, the FY 01 Management Agreement Matrix (Annual Performance Goals and Measures) for the Office of Water .
- Section 8: *FY 2000 Annual Report***
Contains Goal 2 (Clean and Safe Water) Chapter from the Agency’s FY 00 Annual Performance Report and the FY 00 End-of-Year Results for the National Water Program.
- Section 9: *Key Contacts*** (revised for 2001)
Contains lists of the Headquarters and Regional contacts for the Office of Water’s Management and Accountability Workgroup (MAWG).

Introduction

Overview

The National Program Guidance for the Office of Water U.S. Environmental Protection Agency FY2002-03 is intended to serve as guidance for the implementation of the National Water Program. This guidance should assist all of us in providing consistent and fair implementation of the important programs for which we are responsible. In addition, this guidance provides the framework for EPA negotiations with our State and Tribal partners who play a vital role in protecting and restoring the Nation's waters. This guidance should be shared with these partners and should serve as a primary resource for National Water Program staff and managers as they plan and implement their programs for FY2002-03. This guidance addresses key elements of the National Water Program's accountability system -- priorities, core program guidances, Management Agreements (MAs), and mid-year and end-of-year reporting.

Content

This guidance consists of eight sections which are listed and described in the Table of Contents on page i. Further key points on several of these sections follow. In **Section 3, those strategies and guidances marked with an asterisk (*) are considered core, and the Regional Administrator must consult with the Assistant Administrator for Water before agreeing to a work plan with a State that differs significantly from these asterisked guidances and strategies.** In **Section 5**, identical or parallel measures for all of the Core Performance Measures (CPMs) for FY2001 are included as part of the annual performance measures (APMs) that are listed in the template. Also, a table showing the CPMs and the parallel APMs is provided for ease in identifying them from the longer list of annual performance goals (APGs) and APMs.

